



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION I
5 POST OFFICE SQUARE, SUITE 100
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109-3912

16 May 2012

Mr. Rick Greenwood, Deputy Director
Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission
Old State House
150 Benefit Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Mr. Greenwood:

EPA New England has been coordinating closely with the City of Warwick and the Narragansett Indian Tribe as well as the Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission in the planning and design of the proposed Bayside-Mill Cove sewer project over the past number of years.

As your office is aware, the funding for the construction of the Warwick Sewers project will likely include federal monies. Accordingly, the undertakings are subject to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, and subject to review by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO). The firm of Gordon R. Archibald, Inc. (GRA) contracted with Public Archaeological Laboratory (PAL) to conduct a cultural resource management survey to consider potential historic properties within the undertaking's Area of Potential Effect (APE). This study was completed in 2009.

Based upon the findings of the archaeological study, as summarized in the attached report, EPA New England recommends that this Bayside-Mill Cove site be considered eligible for the National Historical Registry. This recommendation is based upon evidence that the site is representative of a property that is significant in the history of the Nation, the State of Rhode Island, and the Narragansett Indian Tribe. As evidenced in the attached report, the property is significant because the site has the potential to provide new information about the Nation's past. The archaeological findings completed thus far include discovery of a myriad of features and artifacts that provide perspective on aspects of the lives of the Narragansett Indian Tribe's ancestors. Additional proposed archaeological investigations will further reveal the significance and need for protecting this culturally and historically sensitive site.

EPA New England hereby respectfully submits this letter of request for a determination of eligibility of the Bayside-Mill Cove site for the National Historical Registry, supported by the attached survey report that includes the site description and map of the project. Please contact the EPA New England Indian Program Manager, CAPT Michael A. Stover, PE, at (617) 918-1123 if you have any questions, and I look forward to your response to this recommendation for eligibility.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lois K. Adams".

Lois K. Adams
Chief
Grants, Tribal, Community and Municipal Assistance Branch

cc: Charlotte Taylor, Senior Archaeologist, RIHPC

attachment: Technical Proposal, Warwick Sewer – Bayside – Mill Cove Site, Tidewater Drive